Message Text

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CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-04 DOTE-00

EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07

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O P 280421Z DEC 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ICNAF EFIS XN BU

SUBJECT:BULGARIAN INTENTION TO FILE OBJECTION TO ICNAF MONTREAL PROPOSALS

REF: A. SOFIA 2798 B. STATE 299422

1. REFTEL A VERY ENLIGHTENING AND INDICATIVE OF WHAT MAY BE BASIC GOB MISUNDERSTANDING OF SPECIFIC ICNAF PROPOSALS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM BOTH MONTREAL AND EDINBURGH MEETINGS.

2. REFERENCE TO QUOTA LIMITS AND EFFORT LIMITATION IN ICNAF PROPOSALS FOR SUBAREAS THREE AND FOUR DOES NOT TALLY WITH GOB STATEMENTS IN PARA FOUR REFTEL A. THOSE PROPOSALS ARE ADMITTEDLY COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND. IN FACT, CANADIAN DEL AT MONTREAL MEETING INVITED MEMBER GOVTS TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOC FOR IMPROVEMENT OF PORPOSED SYSTEM OF EFFORT LIMITATION. IN ANY EVENT, THE WAY WE READ THE PROPOSALS, BULGARIA HAS GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR VIABLE FISHERY IN SUBAREAS THREE AND FOUR WITHIN THE OTHERS QUOTAS, WHICH ARE CONSIDERABLY LARGER THAN THEY SEEM TO THINK. FOR EXAMPLE: OTHERS QUOTA FOR COD IN SA 3&4 COMBINED IS AT LEAST 3500 TONS, NOT 100 TONS; AND REDFISH AT LEAST 1600 TONS, NOT 200 TONS.

ADDITIONALLY, THERE ARE TWO WAYS UNDER THE COMBINED PROPOSALS FOR BULGARIAN FISHING TO TAKE PLACE: ONE UNDER THE "OTHERS" SPECIES QUOTAS, AND ONE UNDER THE "OTHERS" EFFORT LIMITATION ALLOCATIONS. IN THOSE PORTIONS OF SA 3 AND 4 WHERE GOB DOES NOT HAVE SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS OF FISHING DAYS THEY MAY FISH UNDER THE DAYS ALLOCATED TO "OTHERS."

- 3. THIS SUBJECT AND EMBASSY'S REPORTING HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH CANADIAN FISHERIES OFFICIALS AT SOME LENGTH. ON MONDAY, GOC WILL CHECK ON SUBMISSIONS FROM OTHER ICNAF MEMBERS MENTIONED ABOVE TO SEE IF ONE HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM GOB, AND WILL THEN DECIDE HOW BEST TO APPROACH GOB THEMSELVES. WE SUGGESTED THEIR AMB IN SOFIA MIGHT WISH TO CONTACT AMEMB SOFIA DIRECTLY FOR ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND ON CASE TO DATE. IN YOUR DISCRETION, YOU MAY INITIATE CONTACT WITH CANEMB.
- 4. IF APPT WITH FONMIN MLADENOV MATERIALIZES IN SOFIA, AMB SHOULD CONTINUE SAME APPROACH AS BEFORE AND NOTE POSSIBILITY OF MISINTERPRETATION OF COMPLEX MONTREAL QUOTA AND EFFORT LIMITATION PROPOSALS, SUGGESTING BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM IS DIRECTLY WITH GOC FISHERIES OFFICIALS ON INTERPRETATIONS OF FIGURES. FILING OBJECTION WOULD BE STEP BACKWARD, AWAY FROM COOPERATIVE EFFORTS SO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LONG DEVELOPING. AMB IS QUITE RIGHT (REFTEL A) THAT MONTREAL RECOMMENDATIONS REPRESENT ONE LABORIOUSLY NEGOTIATED WHOLE THAT COULD COLLAPSE IF GOB FILES OBJECTION TO ANY PART. CLEARLY, GOB SHOULD DISCUSS MATTER IN DETAIL WITH GOC BEFORE CONSIDERING FILING OBJECTION.

5. FOR MOSCOW: EMBASSY SHOULD CONTACT VICEMIN FOR FISHERIES KAMENTSEV OR AVAILABLE MINFISH OFFICIAL FIRST

THING MONDAY, EXPLAIN SITUATION AND REQUEST THEY CONSIDER INTERCEDING WITH GOB.

6. FOR WARSAW: IN YOUR DISCRETION, CONTACT ANDERS AGAIN TO SEE IF HE WAS ABLE TO GET THROUGH TO GOB.

7. FOR ALL: PLEASE MAKE OTTAWA INFO ADDEE ON FUTURE TRAFFIC THIS SUBJECT. SISCO

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